

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE DRAWINGS

Please amend Fig. 6 as indicated in red on the attached Annotated Sheet. A Replacement Sheet presenting the replacement figure which incorporates the desired change is also enclosed in the Submitted Drawings section of this amendment.

Reference number "82" has been amended to reference number "26". This amendment is consistent with Brief Description of Fig. 6 which describes Fig. 6 as relating to the forming section. Further, this amendment is consistent with the Detailed Description at page 7, lines 15-17 which describes fibrous slurry 24 relative to forming fabric 26.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, 17-59, and 61-63 are pending in this application, claims 20-44 having been withdrawn. Claims 1-15, 17-19, 45-59, and 61-63 are rejected but have been found allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and Double Patenting. Claims 1 and 45 are amended; and claims 17 and 61 are canceled hereby.

Responsive to the provisional rejection of claims 1-15, 17-19, 45-59, and 61-63 under nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-12, 15-22, and 59-64 of Application No. 10/768,550, Applicants submitted a terminal disclaimer on August 15, 2007 signed by Attorney Todd T. Taylor, who is listed on the Power of Attorney signed by the inventors.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1-15, 17-19, 45-59, and 61-63 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 45 and canceled claims 17 and 61. The Office Action at page 3 indicates that the extended nip press belt of claims 1 and 45 could be interpreted as being impermeable but acknowledges that the specification discloses the press belt as being permeable. The current amendments to claims 1 and 45 provide that the extended nip press belt *is permeable*. Further, the Office Action at page 3 indicates that claims 1 and 45 are broader than the disclosure in that the passing air step could occur downstream of the contacting and carrying steps. The current amendments to claims 1 and 45 provide for passing air *successively through the extended nip press belt*, the first fabric, the fibrous web and the second fabric. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 45, and claims 2-15, 18-19, 46-59, and 62-63 depending respectively therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby conditionally

petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095,

TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to  
telephone the undersigned at (260) 897-3400.

Respectfully submitted,

/Todd T. Taylor/

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SUBMITTED DRAWINGS

Drawings that are being submitted include a Replacement Sheet and an Annotated Sheet,  
as indicated on the pages that follow.

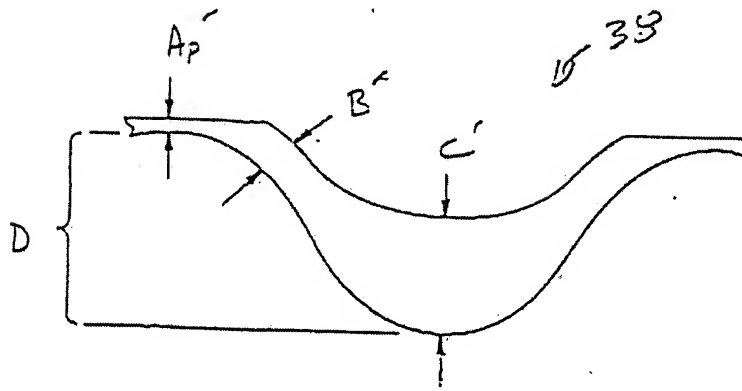


FIG. 5

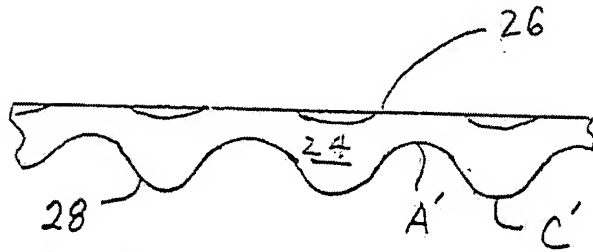
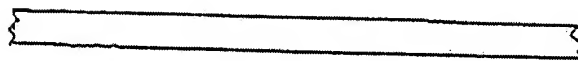


FIG. 6



PRIOR ART

FIG. 7

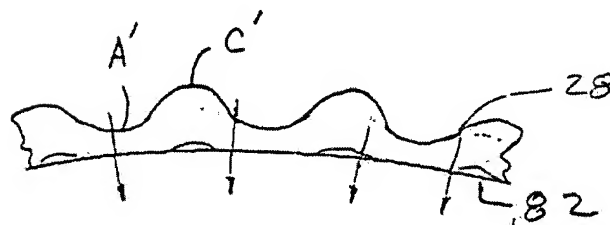


FIG. 8